

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



FISCAL NOTE

SB 1069 – HB 1496

March 16, 2009

SUMMARY OF BILL: Requires the Senate and House of Representatives Judiciary Committees to study all aspects of capital punishment trials in Tennessee and to report their findings and recommendations to the Governor and the General Assembly no later than January 15, 2010. Establishes a moratorium preventing execution of any person through April 15, 2010.

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:

**Increase State Expenditures – Net Impact – \$6,800/Incarceration*
\$6,800/Each One-Day Meeting**

Assumptions:

- Tennessee has executed five offenders since April 2000. Currently there are 87 offenders on death row. The cost per execution is estimated in excess of \$15,000.
- According to the Department of Correction, the average operating cost per offender per day for calendar year 2009 is \$59.80. A moratorium on executions would increase state expenditures by \$21,841.95 (\$59.80 x 365.25 days) per year for each year that an offender is housed in a state facility rather than being executed.
- One execution scheduled prior to April 15, 2010, will be postponed as a result of the moratorium.
- The net impact on state expenditures for incarceration costs would be an increase in state expenditures of \$6,841.95 (\$21,841.95 - \$15,000).
- Travel and per diem expenses for 21 legislative members of \$6,834.24 (\$171 per diem plus \$154.44 mileage each).

CERTIFICATION:

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial "J".

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc